

Because Thine Heart Was Tender

VI: A Tender Heart _____ with God: v29-33

- *covenant* = a unification of two or more parties

when the Josiah makes a covenant before the Lord, he is publicly unifying himself with the Lord.

A. the _____ the covenant was made: v30

B. the _____ who made the covenant: v30

C. the _____ of God's Word: v30

D. the _____ to the Lord: v31

E. the _____ of the covenant: v32-33

The evidences of Josiah's tender heart was that ...

- he sought a right relationship with the Lord
- he purged sin from the land
- he repaired the Temple
- he was convicted by the Word of God
- he humbled himself before the Lord
- and he and Judah made a covenant with the Lord. They unified themselves to the Lord's commandments, testimonies, and statutes.

Because Josiah's heart was tender, God postponed His judgment upon Judah.



February 27, 2022

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Part 2

2 Chronicles 34

2 Chronicles 34 is the recorded testimony of Josiah, the last great king of Judah prior to captivity. And in his testimony, we find God's postponing His judgment on Judah because Josiah's heart was tender.

God warns us in Proverbs 4:23 to ***Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.*** What areas of Josiah's life did he guard and keep? What does a tender heart look like? Is a tender heart soft on sin? Does it prevent someone from taking drastic measures against sin?

This morning we conclude our two-part mini series looking at the evidences of a tender heart.

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Part 1 review: A tender heart : 2 Chron. 34:1-13

1) seeks God 2) purges sin and 3) repairs the Temple.

IV: A Tender Heart is _____ by God's Word: v14-21

A. the _____ of God's Word

Upon finding the book of the law, it was treated with respect and care. It was valued by those who found it and by Josiah.

B. the _____ of God's Word

Other kings did not value the Word of God. Jehoiakim, for example, actually cut out from the scroll of Jeremiah the prophecy of God's coming judgment upon Judah. But Josiah was convicted by God's Word to the point that he mourned over the spiritual condition of Judah and Israel.

A tender heart not only recognizes the importance of God's Word but is also impacted by the conviction from God's Word.

How does your heart respond to God's Word? Does it respond with doubt? Anger? Apathy? Or does it respond with conviction?

Do you mourn over those spiritual areas that were once alive but now have become dead or quiet in your spiritual life?

When you hear God's Word preached or read your Bible does it have any impact on your life, or do you respond as Jehoiakim responded by getting angry because it has pierced even to the dividing asunder of your soul and spirit?

A tender heart is convicted by God's Word and responds to His conviction.

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V: A Tender Heart is _____: v23-28

After the book of the law is read to Josiah, he sends an entourage of men to the prophetess Hildah, who delivers a very personal message to Josiah (v26-28). We notice the...

A. the _____ Josiah's humility

- his _____ were opened to rebuke
 - his _____ was moved towards reverence
 - his _____ were soaked with remorse
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-

B. the _____ from God: v28

God promises Josiah that he would go to his grave in peace and not see the evil that Judah was facing.

Most people conclude that humility is what brings a tender heart. But in Josiah's case, as with us at times, it is actually the exact opposite. It is the tender heart that allows for humility.

1 Peter 5:5 tells us ... ***be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.***

James 4:6 says ... ***God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.***

2 Chron. 7:14 declares ... ***If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.***

Is your heart tender this morning? If so, your life will demonstrate humility.
